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CARE OF MALE PATIENTS

DEAR EDITOR: I would like to hear *alumnæ* associations and superintendents of nurses voice a protest against a growing wrong in small training schools in the south and west (those dominated by male management), exacting of pupil nurses the catheterizing of male patients.

It is a condition that should not be, and every superintendent of training school, every association of nurses, every private nurse not associated with an *alumnæ* association should take a decided stand against such violation of the Mosaic law.

Private duty on the plains of the sparsely settled west sometimes necessitates a nurse's fulfilling this duty, when thirty or forty miles from a doctor, but that should not form a precedent, by which the greed of men in authority prompts them to exact it of their pupil nurses. It is a wrong so poignant that the question should be settled by legislative bodies, before allowing these schools a charter.

S. W. K.

OCCUPATION FOR INVALIDS

DEAR EDITOR: Referring to the proposed exhibit of occupations for invalids by the American Society of Superintendents of Training Schools, I beg to suggest the pleasure derived by invalids and their friends from pictures by our best artists. The Perry Pictures, the Copley Prints, and others furnish a list of several thousand copies of the best American, European and Asiatic artists. The 10 x 12 size is very convenient for ward, room, hospital, and home decoration.

J. McK.

WANTED, A SHORT COURSE IN SOCIAL WORK

DEAR EDITOR: Can you tell me of an association or hospital that will give a few weeks' instruction to a visiting tuberculosis nurse? All that I know anything about give a three or six months' course, and I do not feel the need of so long a term. I have been a nurse for a number of years, have done institutional and private nursing, and am now the visiting nurse for an antituberculosis association. Before taking up the work, I studied conditions in another city, but am not satisfied and would like to spend my vacation in some place where I could study social problems especially, for it is along those lines that I feel my weakness.

M. P.

[Replies sent to the editorial office of the JOURNAL will be forwarded to the writer of the above letter.—Ed.]

FORCED FEEDING OF POLITICAL PRISONERS

DEAR EDITOR: Permit me to reply to J. B., the English nurse who writes in April on the forced feeding of political prisoners, that she entirely overlooks the real issue involved in the case. The English prisons have three different divisions, so called, and the first division treatment allows prisoners to wear their own clothes, see their friends, have books and letters,—in a word, these prisoners are not treated like common criminals. Men who have been convicted of political crimes have always been placed in the first division, even when they have committed murder from political motives. The reason

that the suffragettes resorted to the hunger strike was, that, though they were political prisoners, they were treated like common criminals. It was a protest against being placed in the second division as if they had been convicted of civil crimes and misdemeanors. The government was not obliged to let the women die. The just alternative open to it was to place the women in the first division. This is henceforth to be done, by order of the new Home Secretary, Churchill, and gives proof that the other treatment was a wrong. J. B. should remember that the leaders in all great reform movements have been criticized for not conforming to conventional standards of propriety, and we should all remember that we owe all the freedom we have to just such "unladylike commotion" carried on in the past by all those women who first broke bonds.

LAVINIA L. DOCK, R.N.

CONCERNING THE IMMIGRANTS

DEAR EDITOR: The plan for the reunion of the "Immigrants" (as far as it can be arranged at so early a date) is to have a little dinner together on Thursday night of Convention week, May 19; to have it early enough to avoid interference with any plans for the evening; to have it simple and inexpensive enough to be within the limit of digestion and pocketbook. No formalities of speech or toast, but just a "roll call" of all the names, by Miss Damer if she is able to be present, with responses read from those not there by Miss DeWitt.

Sarah J. Graham, of 733 Park Avenue, New York, will make definite arrangements for the place and price of the dinner as soon as she can learn for how many to prepare. Mrs. Lockwood is sending personal letters to those whose addresses she knows, but fears some will not be reached. Will not every one make a point of letting all others of the party whom *she* knows well know of the plan and urge every one to be present if she can, and to notify Miss Graham at once; or if she can't come, to send greetings to be read to Miss DeWitt of the JOURNAL, Miss Graham of New York, or Mrs. Lockwood of Granby, Conn.

EDITH BALDWIN LOCKWOOD.